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Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Report of the Commission on Human Rights acting as the preparatory committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on its first session (1-5 May 2000)

Contents

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	Organization of the session	1–14	2
II.	Provisional agenda, draft rules of procedure, dates, duration, venue of and participation at the World Conference	15–30	6
III.	Preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels	31–40	9
IV.	Reports, studies and other documentation for the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference	41–47	10
V.	Organization of the work of the second session of the Preparatory Committee	48–52	11
VI.	General debate	53–54	11
VII.	Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee to the General Assembly	55	12
Annexes			
I.	Decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its first session		13
II.	Agenda		18
III.	List of documents issued for the first session of the Preparatory Committee		19
IV.	Provisional rules of procedure for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance		23

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I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

1. The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held its first session in Geneva from 1 to 5 May 2000, as mandated by the General Assembly in paragraph 29 (d) of its resolution 52/111. It held 12 meetings during the session.

A. Opening of the session

2. The session was opened by Mr. Shambhu Ram Simkhada, Chairman of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights, who made a statement. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and Secretary-General of the World Conference, Ms. Mary Robinson, also made a statement.

3. At the same meeting, Her Excellency Ms. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Minister for Foreign Affairs of South Africa, addressed the Preparatory Committee.

B. Attendance

4. The session was attended by representatives of the following States Members of the United Nations, non-member States and Palestine, specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental organizations, other entities, human rights bodies and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations:

States Members of the United Nations

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia And Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalem, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See, Switzerland

Other observers

Palestine

United Nations

Department of Public Information; United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research; Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

United Nations bodies and human rights mechanisms

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; Committee on the Rights of the Child; Human Rights Committee; Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance; Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights; United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat); United Nations Development Programme; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; United Nations Population Fund; United Nations Volunteers; Working Group on Indigenous Populations

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organization; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization

Intergovernmental organizations

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance; European Community, including the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the European Commission, and the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union; European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia; Inter-American Development Bank; Inter-American Institute of Human Rights; International Organization of the Francophonie; League of Arab States; Organization of African Unity; Organization of the Islamic Conference

Other entities

International Committee of the Red Cross; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Order of Malta

Non-governmental organizations

General consultative status

Asian Legal Resource Centre; Franciscans International; International Alliance of Women; Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities; International Confederation of Free Trade Unions; International Save the Children Alliance; World Federation of Democratic Youth; World Federation of United Nations Associations; World Muslim Congress

Special consultative status

African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters; Agencia Latinoamericana de Informacion (ALAI); All India Women's Conference; All Pakistan Women's Association; American Indian Law Alliance; Amnesty International; Anti-Slavery International; Arab Organization for Human Rights; Asociación Latinoamericana para los Derechos Humanos; Association Francois-Xavier Bagnoud; Baha'i International Community; Bunyad Literacy Community Council; Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches; December Twelfth Movement International Secretariat; Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund; European Women's Lobby; France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand; Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers); Human Rights Internet; Human Rights Watch; Inclusion International (International League of Societies for Persons with Mental Handicap); Indian Council of Education; Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru"; Interfaith International; International Association against Torture; International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; International Catholic Migration Commission; International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development; International Commission of Jurists; International Federation of Human Rights Leagues; International Human Rights Law Group; International Indian Treaty Council; International Investment Center; International League for Human Rights; International Organization for the Development of Freedom of Education; International Organization for the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination; International Service for Human Rights; Jeunesse etudiante catholique internationale; Madre, Inc.; Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students); South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre; Susila Dharma International Association; Tiye International; United for Intercultural Action; United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Women's International Zionist Organization; Women's World Summit Foundation; World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations; World Association of Former United Nations Interns and Fellows; World Council of Independent Christian Churches; World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women; World Jewish Congress; World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations; World University Service; World Young Women's Christian Association; Worldview International Foundation

Roster

Article 19 - The International Centre against Censorship; Asian Cultural Forum on Development; Association for World Education; Association of World Citizens; Indian Law Resource Center; International Human Rights Association of American Minorities; International

Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism; International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling; Liberation; Movement against Racism and for Friendship among Peoples; World Organization of Former Pupils of Catholic Education; World Peace Council

Non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council authorized to participate

Antirasistik Senter; Canadian Race Relations Foundation; Center for Women's Global Leadership; Columbia University Law School; Forum contre le racisme; Horn of Africa Human Rights Watch; International Council on Human Rights; KOK; Migrant Rights International; Native American Rights Fund; Organization of Africans in the Americas

C. Election of officers

5. At its 1st meeting, on 1 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson:	Ms. Absa Claude Diallo (Senegal)
Vice-Chairpersons:	Mr. Raouf Chatty (Tunisia) Mr. Mehdi Danesh Yazdi (Islamic Republic of Iran) Mr. Hamidon Ali (Malaysia) Mr. Gioce Petreski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) Mr. Teimuraz Bakradze (Georgia) Mr. Adhemar Bahadian (Brazil) Mr. Philippe Petit (France) Ms. Betty King (United States of America)
Vice-Chairperson-Rapporteur:	Mr. Arturo Hernández Basave (Mexico)
Ex officio:	Mr. S.G. Nene (South Africa)

D. Adoption of the agenda and rules of procedure

6. Also at its 1st meeting, on 1 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee had before it the provisional agenda for its first session (A/CONF.189/PC.1/1) and annotations thereto (A/CONF.189/PC.1/1/Add.1), prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 32 (d) of General Assembly resolution 54/154.

7. The Preparatory Committee adopted its agenda without a vote. For the text, see annex II.

8. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee also decided that the rules of procedure governing its meetings should be, insofar as applicable, those of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

E. Organization of work

9. For the list of documents issued for the first session of the Preparatory Committee, see annex III. For a list of the decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee, see annex I.

10. Also at its 1st meeting, the Preparatory Committee considered the organization of its work.

11. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee approved the draft timetable for the consideration of items as proposed by the Bureau, subject to the possibility of using the meeting time on Friday morning, 5 May 2000, for a general debate.

12. At its 2nd meeting, on 1 May 2000, it was agreed that the list of speakers would be opened at the beginning of the session for all participants to be inscribed for all agenda items. The closure of the list of speakers on any particular item would be announced by the Chairperson in advance.

13. At the same meeting, the Chairperson proposed that for the discussion of the technical agenda items, the Preparatory Committee should hold an interactive debate, with statements in principle limited to three minutes, although the time limit would be interpreted flexibly. There were no objections to this proposal.

14. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee considered a note by the Secretariat (A/CONF.189/PC.1/20) transmitting the request of 11 non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to receive accreditation to the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference. This request was made pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, which provides for non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Council to request special accreditation for world conferences and their preparatory processes. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted decision PC.1/1, entitled "Accreditation of eleven non-governmental organizations", which was adopted without a vote (see annex I).

II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA, DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE, DATES, DURATION, VENUE OF AND PARTICIPATION AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE

15. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 5 at its 2nd to 7th meetings, on 2, 3 and 4 May, and at its 9th to 12th meetings, on 4 and 5 May.

16. For the documents issued under agenda item 5, see annex III.

17. Statements on agenda item 5 were made by representatives of the following States (the number in brackets is that of the meeting at which the statement was made): Algeria (2nd, 10th, 11th, 12th), Argentina (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 9th), Armenia (11th, 12th), Bangladesh (2nd, 3rd, 10th), Botswana (3rd), Brazil (5th, 11th, 12th), Canada (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th), Chile (2nd, 10th), China (3rd, 10th, 11th), Congo (4th), Cuba (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th), Denmark (2nd, 3rd, 4th), Ecuador (3rd, 5th, 9th, 10th) Egypt (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th, 12th), Ethiopia (2nd, 4th, 5th), Finland (3rd, 10th), France (5th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th),

Germany (3rd, 10th, 11th), India (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th), Israel (3rd), Italy (2nd, 11th, 12th), Japan (2nd, 3rd, 10th), Malaysia (10th, 11th), Mauritania (3rd), Mexico (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th), Morocco (2nd, 3rd), Netherlands (2nd), New Zealand (3rd, 10th), Nigeria (9th, 10th, 11th, 12th), Norway (5th, 10th), Pakistan (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th), Peru (2nd), Poland (12th), Portugal (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th), Philippines (10th), Russian Federation (2nd, 4th, 11th), Senegal (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th), South Africa (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 10th, 11th), Spain (2nd, 11th), Sweden (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th), Syrian Arab Republic (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th), Sudan (10th), Tunisia (2nd, 3rd, 4th), Turkey (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (5th, 11th, 12th), United States of America (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 9th, 10th, 11th), Venezuela (10th).

18. Statements on agenda item 5 were also made by the observer for Switzerland (3rd, 5th).

19. A statement on agenda item 5 was made by Ms. Erica-Irene Daes, Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (2nd).

20. Statements on agenda item 5 were made by the following non-governmental organizations: African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters (5th), Indian Law Resource Center (3rd), Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund (3rd), Human Rights Watch (5th), Indian Council of Education (6th), Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru" (6th), International Association against Torture (5th, 10th), International Indian Treaty Council (5th), International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (3rd, 5th), Pax Romana (5th).

21. At the 2nd meeting, the Preparatory Committee considered and adopted, without a vote, the proposal to accept the invitation of the Government of South Africa to host the World Conference and the proposal to hold the World Conference from 31 August to 7 September 2001. These decisions are reflected in decision PC.1/2, entitled "Dates, duration and venue of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance" (see annex I). The representative of South Africa stated that the exact location of the World Conference in South Africa had not yet been determined and would be communicated at a later time.

22. At its 3rd meeting, on 2 May 2000, the Chairperson proposed the establishment of an in-sessional open-ended working group under agenda item 5 to consider, inter alia, a slogan for the World Conference and a framework and substantive items for the provisional agenda of the World Conference. The Chairperson also proposed that the working group be chaired by the representative of France. This proposal was adopted without a vote. This decision is reflected in PC.1/3, entitled, "Establishment of an in-sessional open-ended working group under agenda item 5" (see annex I). The Chairperson requested that the working group make specific proposals to the Preparatory Committee by 5 May 2000.

23. At its 4th, 5th and 7th meetings, the Preparatory Committee considered the draft provisional rules of procedure of the World Conference (A/CONF.189/PC.1/2). After this document had been considered and a number of amendments made, the Preparatory Committee, at its 7th meeting, adopted the provisional rules of procedure as amended, without a vote. The decision of the Committee is reflected in decision PC.1/4, entitled "Provisional rules of

procedure of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance" (see annex I). For the text of the provisional rules of procedure for the World Conference as adopted, see annex IV.

24. At the 7th meeting, the representative of France reported that the in-sessional open-ended working group had focused mainly on the question of a slogan for the World Conference and that various themes had been discussed.

25. At its 9th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted, without a vote, decision PC.1/5, entitled "Accreditation of non-governmental organizations" (see annex I), which refers to the procedure for the accreditation of those non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

26. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted, without a vote, decision PC.1/6, entitled "Financial assistance for the participation of least developed countries", proposed by Bangladesh (see annex I).

27. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted, without a vote, decision PC.1/7, entitled "Documentation for the World Conference" (see annex I).

28. At its 10th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted, without a vote, decision PC.1/10, entitled, "Slogan for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance" (see annex I).

29. At its 11th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted, without a vote, decision PC.1/11, entitled "Participation of indigenous representatives" (see annex I).

30. At its 12th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted, without a vote, decision PC.1/13 entitled "Themes in the agenda for the World Conference" (see annex I). In adopting this decision, the word "compensatory" in point 4 of the decision was put in square brackets and the following statements were requested to be entered in the report by representatives of either regional groups or States: (a) statement by the Group of Western European and Other States: "Delegations of the Western Group and some others accept point 4 with the word 'compensatory' in square brackets on the basis that, in this context, and in light of further discussions, they have the right to revisit this point"; (b) statement by the Group of African States: "With regard to the brackets placed around the word 'compensatory' in theme No. 4, the African Group does not agree that the brackets are necessary, in the light of relevant international human rights instruments and resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, including those of its fifty-sixth session. However, the African Group agreed to the placement of the brackets around the word in order to facilitate the adoption of the themes for the World Conference. It is underscored that at the meetings of the inter-sessional working group and other preparatory processes for the Conference, the African Group and other delegations will continue to discuss and support the inclusion of the word 'compensatory' as part of theme No. 4. The African Group reaffirms the conclusion that the brackets thus placed around the word will not in any way re-open any discussion on any part of theme No. 4, except the bracketed word"; (c) statement by Armenia: "Armenia states that it will have reservations in accepting point 4 of the text with the word 'compensatory' in square brackets"; (d) statement by Cuba: "Cuba associates

itself with the position of the African Group and is of the view that putting the word 'compensatory' in square brackets is unacceptable and contrary to article 6 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/33, adopted without a vote", (e) statement by Israel: "Israel would like to associate itself with the position set forth by the ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on behalf of the Western Group with regard to the themes for the World Conference agenda", (f) statement by the Syrian Arab Republic: "The Syrian delegation associates itself with the position of the African Group concerning the 'themes in the Provisional Agenda for the World Conference'".

III. PREPARATORY MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS

31. At its 6th meeting, on 3 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 6.

32. For the documents issued under agenda item 6, see annex III.

33. At the same meeting, Ms. Gay McDougall, member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, introduced the report of a satellite meeting, referred to as the Bellagio Consultation, held in Bellagio, Italy, from 24 to 28 January 2000 (A/CONF.189/PC.1/10).

34. At the same meeting, Mr. Mario Yutzis, member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, introduced the report of an expert seminar on racism, refugees and multi-ethnic States held in Geneva from 6 to 8 December 1999 (A/CONF.189/PC.1/9).

35. At the same meeting, Ms. Virginia Dandan, Chairperson of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, introduced the report of an expert seminar on remedies available to victims of acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (A/CONF.189/PC.1/8).

36. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Austria, Brazil, Croatia, Cuba, Ireland (on behalf of the Council of Europe), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Senegal and the United States of America.

37. At the same meeting, a statement was made by Ms. Erica-Irene Daes, Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

38. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the observer for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

39. At the same meeting, a statement was made by an observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

40. At the same meeting, statements were made by representatives of the following non-governmental organizations: Asian Legal Resource Centre, Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, Human Rights Watch, International Human Rights Law Group, International Indian

Treaty Council, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, Minority Rights Group, Pax Romana.

IV. REPORTS, STUDIES AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION FOR THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AND THE WORLD CONFERENCE

41. At its 6th meeting, on 3 May 2000, item 7 was introduced by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and Secretary-General of the World Conference, who made a statement. The Preparatory Committee continued its consideration of this item at its 7th meeting, on 4 May 2000.

42. For the documents issued under item 7, see annex III.

43. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina and the Islamic Republic of Iran made statements.

44. At the same meeting, representatives of UNAIDs and the International Labour Organization made statements.

45. At the same meeting, representatives of the following non-governmental organizations and other bodies made statements: Asian Women's Human Rights Council, Centre for Women's Global Leadership, Columbia University Law School, Human Rights Watch, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International Commission of Jurists, International Indian Treaty Council, International Save the Children Alliance, KOK, Pax Romana, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

46. Also at the 6th meeting: (a) Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, member of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, introduced a document submitted by the Sub-Commission to the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.189/PC.1/13) and the working paper that he had been requested to prepare for the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.189/PC.1/13/Add.1); (b) Mr. Abdelfattah Amor, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance, introduced the report he had prepared for the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.189/PC.1/7); (c) Mr. Maurice Glèlè-Ahanhanzo, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, made a statement.

47. At the 7th meeting: (a) Mr. Michael Sherifis, Chairman of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, introduced the document submitted by the Committee to the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.189/PC.1/12); (b) Ms. Virginia Dandan, Chairperson of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, introduced the document submitted by the Committee to the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.189/PC.1/14); (c) Mr. Jaap Doek, Rapporteur of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, introduced the document submitted by the Committee to the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.189/PC.1/15); (d) Mr. Hipólito Solari-Yrigoyen, member of the Human Rights Committee, made a statement.

V. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

48. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 8 at its 8th to 11th meetings, on 4 and 5 May 2000.

49. Statements on agenda item 8 were made by representatives of the following States: Argentina (8th), Bangladesh (8th), Brazil (8th , 10th) , Chile (8th), China (8th), Cuba (8th , 10th), Czech Republic (8th), Egypt (10th), Ethiopia (8th), France (10th), Georgia (8th), India (8th , 10th), Mexico (8th, 10th), Pakistan (8th, 10th), Senegal (8th), Syrian Arab Republic (10th), Tunisia (8th, 10th), Turkey (8th), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (8th), United States of America (10th).

50. At the 10th meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to adopt a draft provisional agenda for the second session of the Preparatory Committee. For the text, see annex I, decision PC.1/8.

51. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it establish an inter-sessional open-ended working group to develop the draft agenda, the draft declaration and the draft programme of action of the World Conference. The Preparatory Committee also decided to recommend that the General Assembly authorize it to extend its second session for up to five additional working days. For the text, see annex I, decision PC.1/9. The attention of the Preparatory Committee had been drawn, in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decision at the 9th meeting, held on 4 May 2000.

52. At its 11th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted, without a vote, decision PC.1/12 entitled "Draft declaration and programme of action for the World Conference" (see annex I).

VI. GENERAL DEBATE

53. At its 10th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee began a general debate and representatives of the following States made statements: Brazil, Chile, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, United States of America.

54. At its 12th meeting, on 5 May, it was decided that since there was not enough time for the States and organizations on the speakers' list to make statements in the general debate, they could submit their statements in writing to the secretariat, if they so wished, for the record. Statements submitted to the secretariat are reproduced in document A/CONF.189/PC.1/MISC.1.

VII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

55. At its 12th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee considered the draft report on the work of its first session. The draft report, including its annexes, was adopted ad referendum and the Preparatory Committee decided to entrust the Vice-Chairperson-Rapporteur with its finalization.

Annex I

Decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its first session

PC.1/1 Accreditation of eleven non-governmental organizations

At its 2nd meeting, on 1 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to accredit, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 governing the participation of non-governmental organizations in international conferences convened by the United Nations, and their preparatory processes, 11 non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Council. The following non-governmental organizations were accredited: Antirasistik Senter, Canadian Race Relations Foundation, Center for Women's Global Leadership, Columbia University Law School, Forum contre le racism, Horn of Africa Human Rights Watch, International Council on Human Rights, Koordinierungs Kreis gegen Frauenhandel und Gewalt an Frauen Immigrationsprozess (KOK), Migrant Rights International, Native American Rights Fund, Organization of Africans in the Americas.

PC.1/2 Dates, duration and venue of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

At its 2nd meeting, on 1 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to accept the offer of the Government of South Africa to host the World Conference. The Preparatory Committee also decided at the same meeting that the dates of the World Conference would be 31 August to 7 September 2001.

PC.1/3 Establishment of an in-sessional open-ended working group under agenda item 5

At its 3rd meeting, on 2 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to establish an in-sessional open-ended working group under agenda item 5 to consider, inter alia, a slogan and the framework for the provisional agenda for the World Conference.

PC.1/4 Provisional rules of procedure of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

At its 7th meeting, on 4 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to adopt provisional rules of procedure for the World Conference prepared by the secretariat, as amended by the Preparatory Committee.

PC.1/5 Accreditation of non-governmental organizations

The Preparatory Committee,

Noting that the mechanism established by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1996/31 of 26 July 1996 should be the framework for accreditation of non-governmental organizations and noting, moreover, that, since the second session of the Preparatory Committee will not take place until May 2001, a process for interim accreditation is

desirable, so that non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council can be accredited between the two sessions of the Preparatory Committee and can participate fully in the preparatory process for the World Conference, decided, at its 9th meeting, on 4 May 2000, without a vote:

(a) That the Bureau, in consultation with regional groups, will act for the Preparatory Committee to accredit non-governmental organizations in the period between the two sessions of the Preparatory Committee;

(b) That the secretariat will continue to review all applications received to ensure that they meet the requirements set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31;

(c) That non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council shall be accredited in accordance with Council resolution 1996/31; however, where non-governmental organizations have had their consultative status withdrawn or suspended under paragraph 57 (a) or (b) of Council resolution 1996/31, the secretariat will include information on the reasons for withdrawal or suspension, including the date of the decision, in the list circulated to all Governments;

(d) That, periodically, the secretariat will compile a list of those non-governmental organizations seeking accreditation which have met the requirements specified in Council resolution 1996/31; the secretariat will circulate these lists to all Governments with a note verbale, giving the Governments 14 days to make any comments on the application;

(e) That where no comments have been received, the names of the non-governmental organizations will be sent on to the Bureau for accreditation;

(f) That, in the event that a Government raises questions concerning the accreditation of a non-governmental organization, the final decision on those cases shall be taken by the Preparatory Committee, in accordance with the standard process set out in Council resolution 1996/31.

PC.1/6. Financial assistance for participation of least developed countries

At its 9th meeting, on 4 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it reiterate its appeal contained in paragraph 27 of resolution 54/154 of 17 December 1999 for contributions of extrabudgetary resources to meet the cost of participation of representatives of least developed countries in the preparatory processes, including the second session of the Preparatory Committee and relevant regional preparatory meetings, and at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance itself. It also decided to request the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to make every effort to ensure the mobilization of resources for the voluntary fund established to this end.

PC.1/7. Documentation for the World Conference

At its 9th meeting, on 4 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that in the spirit of relevant General Assembly and Commission on Human Rights resolutions, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and mechanisms should be requested to prepare reports, studies and documents and to submit them to the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference. It also decided to request the Office to coordinate these studies and reports, and ensure their completion without delay and their submission to the second session of the Preparatory Committee. The Preparatory Committee further decided that all documents circulated for the first session should also be made available to meetings of the inter-sessional open-ended working group and the second session of the Preparatory Committee.

PC.1/8. Draft provisional agenda for the second session of the Preparatory Committee

At its 10th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to adopt a draft provisional agenda for its second session. The draft provisional agenda contains the following agenda items:

1. Opening of the session.

2. Adoption of the agenda.

3. Organization of work.

4. Submission of the provisional agenda, venue of the World Conference and practical issues.

5. Reports of preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels.

6. Review of reports, studies and other documentation for the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference.

7. Draft declaration and programme of action.

8. Organization of the work of the World Conference and other matters.

9. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee to the General Assembly.

PC.1/9. Establishment by the General Assembly of an inter-sessional open-ended working group

At its 10th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly establish an inter-sessional open-ended working group to meet in Geneva for five working days at the end of January 2001 in order to develop the draft agenda, the draft declaration and the draft programme of action of the World Conference. The

Preparatory Committee also decided to recommend that the General Assembly authorize it to extend its second session for up to five additional working days. The second session would therefore be held in Geneva for up to two weeks at the end of May 2001, it being understood that the exact dates will be decided by the inter-sessional working group at its meeting in January 2001.

PC.1/10. Slogan for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

At its 10th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to adopt the following slogan for the World Conference: "United to Combat Racism: Equality, Justice, Dignity".

PC.1/11. Participation of indigenous representatives

At its 11th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that indigenous representatives that are accredited pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/32 of 25 July 1994 and that submit an application shall be accredited to the World Conference. Other interested indigenous representatives could also be accredited following normal procedures established by decision PC.1/5.

PC.1/12. Draft declaration and programme of action for the World Conference

At its 11th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee, noting General Assembly resolution 54/154 of 17 December 1999, especially paragraph 35 in which the Assembly requested the Preparatory Committee to begin drafting as soon as possible a final document on specific goals, as well as objectives and timetables for their achievement, and noting also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/14 of 17 April 2000, entitled "Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", in particular paragraph 67, in which the Commission recommended that the World Conference should adopt a declaration and programme of action containing concrete and practical recommendations to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, decided:

(a) To invite the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, acting in her capacity as Secretary-General of the World Conference, to draw up a draft declaration and programme of action for the World Conference, on the basis of the outcome of the regional preparatory meetings and the regional seminars, as well as of suggestions she will seek from States Members of the United Nations, United Nations specialized agencies and regional organizations involved in the preparation of the regional meetings and seminars, the regional commissions and all United Nations programmes and bodies, representatives of United Nations human rights mechanisms and concerned non-governmental organizations;

(b) To request the High Commissioner to transmit the draft declaration and programme of action to the meeting of the inter-sessional open-ended working group for its consideration.

PC.1/13 Themes in the provisional agenda for the World Conference

At its 12th meeting, on 5 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to adopt the following themes to be included in the provisional agenda for the World Conference:

1. Sources, causes, forms and contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

2. Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

3. Measures of prevention, education and protection aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at the national, regional and international levels.

4. Provision of effective remedies, recourse, redress, [compensatory]* and other measures at the national, regional and international levels.

5. Strategies to achieve full and effective equality, including international cooperation and enhancement of the United Nations and other international mechanisms in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and follow-up.

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* See paragraph 30 of the present report.

Annex II

AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.

2. Election of officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda and rules of procedure.

4. Organization of work.

5. Provisional agenda, draft rules of procedure, dates, duration, venue and participation at the World Conference.

6. Preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels.

7. Reports, studies and other documentation for the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference.

8. Organization of the work of the second session of the Preparatory Committee.

9. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee to the General Assembly.

Annex III

List of documents issued for the first session of the Preparatory Committee

Symbol	Agenda item	Title
A/CONF.189/PC.1/1	3	Provisional agenda
A/CONF.189/PC.1/Add.1	3	Annotations to the provisional agenda
A/CONF.189/PC.1/2	5	Provisional agenda, draft rules of procedure, dates, duration, venue of and participation at the World Conference, note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/3	7	Progress achieved in the fight against racism and reappraising obstacles to further progress: Report of the High Commissioner on the questionnaire circulated pursuant to paragraph 49 (a) and (b) of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/78
A/CONF.189/PC.1/4	7	Ways of improving coordination between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and all specialized agencies and international, regional and subregional organizations in the field of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: note by the secretariat
A/CONF.189/PC.1/5	7	Consultation on the use of the Internet for the purpose of incitement to racial hatred, racial propaganda and xenophobia
A/CONF.189/PC.1/6	7	Study on preventive measures relating to ethnic, racial, religious and xenophobically motivated conflicts: note by the secretariat
A/CONF.189/PC.1/7	7	Study of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance "Racial discrimination and religious intolerance: identification and measures": note by the Secretary-General

Symbol	Agenda item	Title
A/CONF.189/PC.1/8	6	Report of the expert seminar on remedies available to the victims of racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and on good national practices in this field, held in Geneva from 16 to 18 February 2000: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/9	6	Report of the Expert Seminar on Racism, Refugees and Multi-Ethnic States: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/10	6	Report of the Consultation on the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held in Bellagio, Italy, 24-28 January 2000: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/11	7	Study on the effects of racial discrimination on the children of minorities and those of migrant workers in the fields of education, training and employment: Report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/12	7	Contribution of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to the preparatory process for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/13	7	Contribution of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and protection of Human Rights: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/13/Add.1		Contribution of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights: proposals for the work of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance: working paper submitted by Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, member of the Sub-Commission, in accordance with Sub-Commission resolutions 1998/6 and 1999/6

Symbol	Agenda item	Title
A/CONF.189/PC.1/14	7	Contribution of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to the preparatory process for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/15	7	Contribution of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to the preparatory process for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/17	8	Reviews and recommendations concerning the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance received from specialized agencies, other international organizations, concerned United Nations bodies and regional organizations: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.189/PC.1/18	7	Contributions of non-governmental organizations: note by the secretariat
A/CONF.189/PC.1/19	7	Contribution by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants: discrimination against migrants - migrant women: in search of remedies
A/CONF.189/PC.1/20	4	Accreditation of NGOs not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the sessions of its Preparatory Committee: note by the secretariat
A/CONF.189/PC.1/NGO/1	7	Contribution submitted by the December Twelfth Movement International Secretariat and the International Association against Torture (English only)
A/CONF.189/PC.1/NGO/2	7	Contribution submitted by the Association of Refugees and Displaced Persons of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina (English only)

Symbol	Agenda item	Title
A/CONF.189/PC.1/16		Symbol not attributed
A/CONF.189/PC.1/NGO/3	7	Contribution submitted by the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (English only)
A/CONF.189/PC.1/NGO/4	7	Contribution submitted by the International Save the Children Alliance (English only)
A/CONF.189/PC.1/NGO/5	7	Contribution submitted by the Fédération internationale des Ligues des droits de l'homme (French only)
A/CONF.189/PC.1/NGO/6	7	Contribution submitted by the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations (English only)

Annex IV

Provisional rules of procedure of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS	25
II.	OFFICERS	26
III.	GENERAL COMMITTEE	26
IV.	SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE	27
V.	OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE	28
VI.	CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE	29
VII.	CONDUCT OF BUSINESS	29
VIII.	DECISION-MAKING	32
IX.	SUBSIDIARY BODIES	35
X.	LANGUAGES AND RECORDS	37
XI.	PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS	38
XII.	OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS	38
XIII.	AMENDMENT AND SUSPENSION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE	40

I. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Composition of delegations

Rule 1

The delegation of each State participating in the Conference and observer delegations, including the European Community*, shall consist of a head of delegation and such other representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Alternates and advisers

Rule 2

The head of delegation may designate an alternate representative or an adviser to act as a representative.

Credentials

Rule 3

The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference, if possible not less than one week before the opening of the Conference. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Credentials Committee

Rule 4

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its fifty-fifth session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

Provisional participation

Rule 5

Pending a decision of the Conference upon their credentials, representatives of States shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the Conference.

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* The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance invites the European Community, within its areas of competence, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to the European Community. The European Community shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote at the request of any State.

II. OFFICERS

Elections

Rule 6

The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: a President, 21 Vice-Presidents, a Rapporteur-General, and the Chairpersons of the Main Committee and the Drafting Committee established in accordance with rule 47. These officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring equal geographic distribution and the representative character of the General Committee composed in accordance with rule 10. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Acting President

Rule 7

1. If the President finds it necessary to be absent from a meeting or any part thereof, he/she shall designate a Vice-President to take his/her place.

2. A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.

Replacement of the President

Rule 8

If the President is unable to perform his/her functions, a new President shall be elected.

Voting rights of the President

Rule 9

The President, or a Vice-President acting as President, shall not vote, but shall appoint another member of his/her delegation to vote in his/her place.

III. GENERAL COMMITTEE

Composition

Rule 10

The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General of the Conference and the Chairpersons of the Main Committee and the Drafting Committee shall constitute the General Committee. The President of the Conference, or in his/her absence, one of the Vice-Presidents

designated by him/her, shall serve as Chairperson of the General Committee. The Chairperson of the Credentials Committee may participate, without the right to vote, in the General Committee.

Substitute members

Rule 11

If the President or a Vice-President of the Conference is to be absent during a meeting of the General Committee, he/she may designate a member of his/her delegation to sit and vote in the Committee. In the case of absence, the Chairperson of a Main Committee shall designate a Vice-Chairperson of that Committee as his/her substitute. When serving on the General Committee, a Vice-Chairperson of a Main Committee shall not have the right to vote if he/she is of the same delegation as another member of the General Committee.

Functions

Rule 12

The General Committee shall assist the President in the general conduct of the business of the Conference and, subject to the decisions of the Conference, shall ensure the coordination of its work.

IV. SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE

Duties of the Secretary-General

Rule 13

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, or in his absence, the Secretary-General of the Conference shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference and its subsidiary bodies. The Secretary-General of the United Nations or the Secretary-General of the Conference may designate a member of the secretariat to act in his/her place at those meetings.

2. The Secretary-General of the Conference shall direct the staff required by the Conference.

Duties of the secretariat

Rule 14

The secretariat of the Conference shall, in accordance with these rules:

(a) Interpret speeches made at meetings;

(b) Make and arrange for the keeping of sound recordings of meetings;

(c) Receive, translate and circulate the documents of the Conference;

(d) Report the proceedings of the Conference in appropriate journals;

(e) Publish and circulate the report and any official records of the Conference;

(f) Arrange for the custody of the documents and records of the Conference in the archives of the United Nations;

(g) Generally perform all other work that the Conference may require in connection with its proceedings.

Statements by the secretariat

Rule 15

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Conference or any member of the secretariat designated by either for that purpose may, subject to rule 22, make statements concerning any question under consideration.

V. OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Temporary President

Rule 16

At the opening of the first meeting of the Conference, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, or in his absence, the Secretary-General of the Conference shall preside until the Conference has elected its President.

Decisions concerning organization

Rule 17

The Conference shall, to the extent possible, at its first meeting:

(a) Adopt its rules of procedure;

(b) Elect its officers and constitute its subsidiary bodies;

(c) Adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference;

(d) Decide on the organization of its work.

VI. CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

Report

Rule 18

The Conference shall adopt a report, the draft of which shall be prepared by the Rapporteur-General.

VII. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Quorum

Rule 19

The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the representatives of States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of such States shall be required for any decision to be taken.

General powers of the President

Rule 20

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall preside at the plenary meetings of the Conference; he/she shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He/she shall rule on points of order. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat. The President may propose to the Conference the closing of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the representative of each participant in the Conference may speak on a question, the adjournment or the closure of the debate and the suspension or the adjournment of a meeting.

2. The President, in the exercise of his/her functions, remains under the authority of the Conference.

Points of order

Rule 21

During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be

immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Speeches

Rule 22

1. No one may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Subject to rules 21, 23 and 25 to 28, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.

2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Conference and the President may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3. The Conference may limit the time allowed to speakers and the number of times participants may speak on a question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. In any event, with the consent of the Conference, the President shall limit each intervention on procedural matters to five minutes. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him/her to order without delay.

Precedence

Rule 23

The Chairperson or Rapporteur of a Main Committee or a representative designated by any other subsidiary body may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by the body concerned.

Closing of the list of speakers

Rule 24

During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the President shall, with the consent of the Conference, declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure pursuant to rule 27.

Right of reply

Rule 25

Notwithstanding rule 24, the President shall accord the right of reply to a representative of any State participating in the Conference who requests it. Any other representative may be granted the opportunity to make a reply. Representatives should attempt, in making such

statements, to be as brief as possible and preferably to deliver their statements at the end of the meeting at which the request is made. The representatives of a State may make no more than two statements under this rule at a given meeting on any item. The first shall be limited to five minutes and the second to three minutes; representatives shall in any event attempt to be as brief as possible.

Adjournment of debate

Rule 26

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 29, be immediately put to the vote.

Closure of debate

Rule 27

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his/her wish to speak. In addition to the proposer of the motion, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 29, be immediately put to the vote.

Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

Rule 28

Subject to rule 40, a representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted and they shall, subject to rule 29, be immediately put to the vote.

Order of motions

Rule 29

The motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

(a) To suspend the meeting;

(b) To adjourn the meeting;

(c) To adjourn the debate on the question under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the question under discussion.

Submissions of proposals and substantive amendments

Rule 30

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General of the Conference, who shall circulate copies to all delegations. Unless the Conference decides otherwise, proposals and substantive amendments shall be discussed or put to a decision no earlier than 24 hours after copies have been circulated in all languages of the Conference to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated or have only been circulated the same day.

Withdrawal of proposals and motions

Rule 31

A proposal or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that it has not been amended. A proposal or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Decisions on competence

Rule 32

Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to discuss any matter or adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before the matter is discussed or a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Reconsideration of proposals

Rule 33

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered unless the Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded to only two speakers opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

VIII. DECISION-MAKING

General agreement

Rule 34

The Conference shall exert all possible efforts to ensure that its work and the adoption of its report are accomplished by general agreement.

Voting rights

Rule 35

Each State participating in the Conference shall have one vote.

Majority required

Rule 36

1. Subject to rule 34, decisions of the Conference on all matters of substance shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting.

2. Unless the Conference decides otherwise and except as otherwise provided, decisions of the Conference on all matters of procedure shall be taken by a simple majority of the representatives present and voting.

3. If the question arises whether a matter is one of procedure or of substance, the President of the Conference shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall be put to the vote immediately, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting.

4. If a vote is equally divided, the proposal or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

Meaning of the phrase "representatives present and voting"

Rule 37

For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "representatives present and voting" means representatives casting an affirmative or negative vote. Representatives who abstain from voting shall be regarded as not voting.

Method of voting

Rule 38

1. Except as provided in rule 45, the Conference shall normally vote by show of hands, except that a representative may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States participating in the Conference, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each State shall be called in all roll-calls and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention".

2. When the Conference votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call. A representative may request a recorded vote, which shall, unless a representative requests otherwise, be taken without calling out the names of the States participating in the Conference.

3. The vote of each State participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in any record of or report on the Conference.

Explanation of vote

Rule 39

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanations of vote, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations. The representative of a State sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended.

Conduct during voting

Rule 40

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the process of voting.

Division of proposals

Rule 41

A representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If objection is made to the request for division, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two speakers in favour and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Amendments

Rule 42

A proposal is considered an amendment to another proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal. Unless specified otherwise, the word "proposal" in these rules shall be considered as including amendments.

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 43

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

Order of voting on proposals

Rule 44

1. If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Conference decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted. The Conference may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

2. Revised proposals shall be voted on in the order in which the original proposals were submitted, unless the revision substantially departs from the original proposal. In that case the original proposal shall be considered as withdrawn and the revised proposal shall be treated as a new proposal.

3. A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall be put to the vote before a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Elections

Rule 45

All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate.

Rule 46

1. When one or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast and the largest number of votes shall be elected.

2. If the number of candidates obtaining such a majority is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, in a number not exceeding twice the number of places remaining to be filled.

IX. SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Main Committee and Drafting Committee

Rule 47

The Conference shall establish one Main Committee and a Drafting Committee, which may set up subcommittees or working groups. Each Committee, unless it decides otherwise, shall elect three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur.

Representation on the Main Committee and the Drafting Committee

Rule 48

Each State participating may be represented by one representative on each Committee established by the Conference. It may assign to these Committees such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Other committees and working groups

Rule 49

1. In addition to the Committees referred to above, the Conference may establish such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

2. Each committee may set up subcommittees and working groups.

Quorum

Rule 50

1. The Chairperson of a Committee may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when representatives of at least one quarter of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the States participating in the Conference shall be required for any decision to be taken.

2. A majority of the representatives of the General or Credentials Committee or of any committee, subcommittee or working group shall constitute a quorum.

Officers, conduct of business and voting

Rule 51

These rules of procedure shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to the proceedings of Committees, subcommittees and working groups, except that:

(a) Unless otherwise decided, each committee, subcommittee and working group shall elect its own officers;

(b) The Chairpersons of the General and Credentials Committees, and the chairpersons of the committees, subcommittees and working groups established in accordance with rule 49, may exercise the right to vote;

(c) Decisions of the Committees, other committees, subcommittees and working groups shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting, except that the reconsideration of a proposal or an amendment shall require the majority established by rule 33.

X. LANGUAGES AND RECORDS

Languages of the Conference

Rule 52

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the languages of the Conference.

Interpretation

Rule 53

1. Speeches made in a language of the Conference shall be interpreted into the other such languages.

2. A representative may speak in a language other than a language of the Conference if he/she provides for interpretation into one such language.

Languages of documents, resolutions and other formal decisions

Rule 54

All official documents, resolutions and other formal decisions of the Conference shall be published in the languages of the Conference.

Languages of reports

Rule 55

Any reports submitted by the General Committee, the Credentials Committee, or the Committees established in accordance with rule 47, as well as the report of the Conference referred to in rule 18, shall be published in the languages of the Conference.

Records of meetings

Rule 56

1. There shall be neither verbatim nor summary records of meetings.

2. Sound recordings of meetings of the Conference and of the Committees shall be made and kept in accordance with the practice of the United Nations. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference or the Committees, no such recordings shall be made of the meetings of any working group thereof.

XI. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

General principles

Rule 57

1. The plenary meetings of the Conference and the meetings of the Committees shall be held in public unless the body concerned decides otherwise. All decisions taken by the plenary of the Conference at a private meeting shall be announced at an early public meeting of the plenary.

2. As a general rule, meetings of other bodies of the Conference shall be held in private.

Communiques on private meetings

Rule 58

At the close of a private meeting, the body concerned may issue a communique through the Secretary-General of the Conference.

XII. OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS

Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observer in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly

Rule 59

Representatives designated by organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly have the right to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, its Committees and any other committee or working group.

Associate members of regional commissions

Rule 60

Representatives designated by associate members of regional commissions may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Committees and any other committee or working group.

Representatives of the specialized agencies*

Rule 61

Representatives designated by the specialized agencies may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, its Committees and any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations and other entities

Rule 62

Representatives designated by other intergovernmental organizations and other entities invited to the Conference may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Committees and any working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of interested United Nations organs, bodies, programmes and relevant mechanisms, including human rights bodies and mechanisms

Rule 63

Representatives designated by interested organs, bodies, programmes and relevant mechanisms of the United Nations, including human rights bodies and mechanisms, in particular the special rapporteurs who have contributed to the preparatory process, may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, its Committees and any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities. The chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights, the chairpersons or other designated members of human rights bodies and mechanisms, and of bodies established under international human rights instruments, as well as special and thematic rapporteurs or representatives and the chairpersons or designated members of working groups, may participate as observers in the deliberations of the Conference, any Committee and any committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 64

Representatives of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination may participate as observers in the deliberations of the Conference, its Committees and any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of its activities.

Representatives of national human rights institutions

Rule 65

1. Representatives designated by national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights may participate as observers in the deliberations of the Conference, any Committee and any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

2. In the situation where a country does not have a national institution for the promotion and protection of human rights, representatives designated by ombudspersons or by specialized independent national bodies for the promotion and protection of racial equality may participate as observers in the deliberations of the Conference, any Committee and any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations

Rule 66

1. Non-governmental organizations accredited to participate in the Conference may designate representatives to participate as observers in the Conference, any Committee and any committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

2. Upon the invitation of the presiding officer of the body concerned and subject to the approval of that body, such observers may make oral statements on questions in which they have special competence. If the number of requests to speak is too large, the non-governmental organizations shall be requested to form themselves into constituencies, such constituencies to speak through spokespersons.

Written statements

Rule 67

Written statements submitted by the designated representatives referred to in rules 59 to 65 shall be distributed by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and in the language in which the statements are made available to it at the site of the Conference, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a non-governmental organization is related to the work of the Conference and is on a subject in which it has a special competence.

XIII. AMENDMENT AND SUSPENSION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Method of amendment

Rule 68

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, after the General Committee has reported on the proposed amendment.

Method of suspension

Rule 69

Any of these rules may be suspended by the Conference provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given, which may be waived if no representative objects. Any such suspension shall be limited to a specific and stated purpose and to a period required to achieve that purpose.